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LETTER DATED 13 JUNE 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that at 1130 hours on 23 May 1996 Iraqi coastal craft on patrol in the Khawr Abd Allah sighted a group of Kuwaiti fishing boats inside our territorial waters. When our patrol approached them in order to move them outside our territorial waters, the boats opened fire on the patrol and took off in the direction of Khawr al-Sabiyah. Similarly, at 1115 hours on 25 May 1996 a group of Kuwaiti fishing boats was seen inside our territorial waters. These boats also opened fire on our patrol boats before fleeing outside our territorial waters.

I request you to intervene, as is required of you in accordance with the responsibilities entrusted to you under the Charter of the United Nations, in order to prevent any repetition of these provocative and unwarranted actions on the part of Kuwait and to see to it that Kuwait is held liable for the consequences of acts that escalate tension in the immediate area and adversely affect security and stability in the region as a whole.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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